

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A glazing unit comprising:

at least one marking element visible from outside the glazing unit, the at least one marking element ~~and~~ including a string of characters which contain one or more substrings of one or more successive characters where at least one of the one or more substrings is a hexadecimal number,

wherein ~~that~~ the marking element can be visually identified by whomsoever and is ~~configured to~~ an identity of the at least one marking element can be communicated remotely to an identification device, the identification device incorporating, for a given marking element, characteristics relating to the glazing unit which are configured to be at least partly accessible to the public in exchange for the identity of the at least one marking element.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the string of characters includes at least one of numerals, letters, ~~is a combination of numerals and/or of letters or of~~ or pictorial symbols.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the identity of the at least one marking element is ~~configured to be recognized~~ recognizable by a character-recognition reader equipment.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the at least one marking element is communicated to the identification device by a technical communication.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the identification device includes a computer database in which all the characteristics relating to the glazing unit are recorded in a form of a string of numbers, each number of the string of numbers is coded as a hexadecimal number ~~on successive characters~~ to comprise one of the one or more substrings of the at least one marking element.

Claim 33 (Canceled).

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the at least one marking element ~~or the~~ and an identifier in the identification device ~~remains~~ remain unchanged while corresponding characteristics associated with the glazing unit can be altered.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the at least one marking element is affixed in perpetuity to the glazing unit, or is secured to a part of the glazing unit that is inaccessible from the outside.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, comprising the same at least one marking element arranged at plural points on the glazing unit.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended). The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the at least one marking element identifies technical characteristics that make up the glazing unit, the characteristics relating to ~~its~~ the manufacture of the glazing unit, ~~the commercial~~ characteristics of the glazing unit, and characteristics associated with ~~its~~ a destination of the glazing unit.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the at least one marking element identifies at least one of the following characteristics:

- a commercial name of the glazing unit~~[[,]]~~; ~~and/or~~
- a family of the glazing unit~~[[,]]~~; ~~and/or~~
- a type of the glazing unit;
- a composition of glass in the glazing unit; ~~and/or~~
- technical characteristics afforded by thin layers deposited on the glazing unit;
- dimensions of the glazing unit;
- a place of manufacture of the glazing unit; ~~and/or~~
- a date of manufacture of the glazing unit;
- a first customer of the glazing unit;
- information associated with a first use of the glazing unit;
- a type of certification; ~~and/or of~~
- standards that the glazing unit meets; or
- pecuniary information associated with the glazing unit.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the glazing unit is an insulating unit and comprises at least two sheets of glass and at least one gas-filled cavity separating the two sheets of glass, a spacing of the two sheets of glass being

achieved by at least one interlayer, and wherein the at least one marking element is arranged on the at least one interlayer or on a face facing the gas-filled cavity.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 39, wherein the at least one marking element identifies one or more characteristics ~~of the gas-filled cavity,~~ including ~~its~~ a thickness of the gas-filled cavity, ~~and its composition of the gas-filled cavity,~~ and ~~and/or identifies~~ technical characteristics of the interlayer.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the at least one marking element is engraved or printed onto an element that ~~makes up~~ comprises the glazing unit.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the glazing unit is laminated and comprises at least two sheets of glass and a plastic interlayer arranged between the two sheets of glass, the at least one marking element being affixed to the plastic interlayer.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A method for identifying a glazing unit including at least one marking element visible from outside of the glazing unit and ~~configured to be~~ visually identifiable by whomsoever, the method comprising:

recognizing the at least one marking element,

after the recognizing, transmitting a content of the at least one marking element via a first technical communication device to an identification device including a computer database,

identifying via the identification device that identifies the marking one or more hexadecimal numbers from a string of characters of the at least one marking element,
correlating via the computer database the one more numbers with an item of information in the computer database, and
passing-on at least some of this the item of information publicly via a second technical communication device.

Claim 44 (Currently Amended). The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the recognizing of the at least one marking element is performed by ~~visual reading or~~ electronic reading.

Claim 45 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the transmitting of the content of the at least one marking element to the identification device is performed by mail, ~~or~~ by telephone, ~~or~~ by telefax, ~~or~~ by electronic communications, or by ~~the~~ Internet.

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the passing-on of at least some of the item of information publicly via a second technical communication device includes ~~listing data provided publicly, verbally~~ by telephone, in writing by mail, ~~or~~ by telefax, ~~or~~ by sending a message by telephone or Internet, ~~or~~ by displaying on an Internet site, or by displaying on any display screen connected to a communications network.

Claim 47 (Currently Amended): A system for identifying a glazing unit using a marking element affixed to the glazing unit and ~~configured to be identified~~ identifiable from outside the glazing unit, the system comprising:

~~transmission means for transmitting~~ a first technical communication device that transmits recognition of the marking element to an identification device including a computer database, the identification device receiving the recognition of the marking element and identifying one or more hexadecimal numbers from a string of characters of the marking element, the identification device correlating the one more numbers ~~the marking element~~ corresponding to information ~~configured to be rendered~~ in the computer database that is at least partially ~~public~~ publically renderable; and

~~forwarding means for passing~~ a second technical communication device that passes on the information ~~corresponding in the computer database that corresponds~~ to the marking element from the identification device to a reception device.

Claim 48 (Currently Amended): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein, with the marking element visible from outside the glazing unit, the system further comprises ~~recognition means for recognizing~~ an electronic reader that recognizes the marking element and ~~for reading that reads~~ the marking element.

Claim 49 (Currently Amended): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, further comprising at least one database filter associated with the identification device so as to pass on only some of the information corresponding to the marking element.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim ~~[[46]]~~ 47, wherein the ~~transmission means~~ first technical communication device and

the ~~forwarding means~~ second technical communication device include mail, ~~or~~ telephone, ~~or~~ telefax, ~~or~~ electronic communications ~~means~~, or Internet type.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the reception device includes a recording or viewing device.

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The method for identifying the glazing unit as claimed in claim 43, wherein the information corresponding to ~~[[a]]~~ the at least one marking element and contained in the computer database of the identification device includes technical characteristics that make up the glazing unit, characteristics relating to its manufacture of the glazing unit, commercial characteristics of the glazing unit, and characteristics associated with ~~its~~ a destination of the glazing unit.

Claim 53 (Currently Amended): The method for identifying the glazing unit as claimed in claim 43, wherein the correlating the one or more numbers with the item of information further comprises relating the one or more numbers to a string of numbers of an identifier, the identifier representing the item of information and the item of information containing all characteristics relating to the glazing unit,

wherein the information is recorded in the computer database of the identification device in a computer-oriented manner in a form of the string of numbers of the identifier; ~~each number being coded on one or more successive characters of the marking element.~~

Claim 54 (Canceled).

Claim 55 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 39, wherein the at least one marking element is arranged on a face of the at least one interlayer facing the gas-filled cavity.